

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants have carefully considered this application in connection with the Examiner's Action and respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

The Applicants originally submitted Claims 1-16 in the application. The Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has allowed Claims 4-15 in an Action mailed February 23, 2005. In previous responses, the Applicants have amended Claims 1-16. In this response, the Applicants have cancelled Claims 4 and 16 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amended Claim 1 to incorporate subject matter the Examiner has indicated is allowable. Accordingly, Claims 1-3 and 5-15 are currently pending in the application.

I. Formal Matters

The Examiner and the Applicants' agent, Andrew Ralston, Reg. No. 55,560, conducted a telephone interview on June 29, 2006. Mr. Ralston and the Examiner exchanged views on the teaching of U.S. Patent No. 6,434,135 to Ozluturk, *et al.* with respect to Claims 1-3 and 16. No agreement was reached.

II. Rejection of Claims 1-3 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-3 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ozluturk. The Applicants have amended Claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer to incorporate allowed subject matter of Claim 4 (now cancelled). Thus, the rejection of Claims 1-3 is rendered moot. The Applicant has cancelled Claim 16 without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby rendering

moot the rejection of this claim. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of Claims 1-3 and allow issuance thereof.

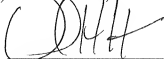
III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Applicants now see all of the Claims currently pending in this application to be in condition for allowance and therefore earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-3 and 5-15.

The Applicants request the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 480-8800 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, credits or overpayments to Deposit Account 08-2395.

Respectfully submitted,

HITT GAINES, PC

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'DHH', is written over a horizontal line.

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